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THE WEEKLY.

After this issue the WEEKLY takes its Holiday vacation of two weeks; so look for no paper till Jan. 8, 1880. A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our readers! We hope to have a thousand more when next we open our mouth.

Harper's Weekly for 1880, thirteen numbers of *Harper's Young People*, and THE EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY for 1880 will be sent to any one sending us \$5.25; or, *Harper's Young People*, *Harper's Weekly*, and THE EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY will be sent for 1880, for \$6.10. See prospectus of *Harper's Weekly* in advertising columns.

The International Society for Investigating and Promoting the Science of Teaching is now fully organized, and numbered among its members are some of the leading educators of Canada and the United States. The executive committee have nearly completed their arrangements for the next meeting, which is to be held in August, 1880. The purposes of this society are fully explained in its name, and all teachers who realize the responsibility of the profession they have chosen must note with deep interest the discussions of this association. The object of the society is, to bring to bear directly upon the science of teaching the profoundest thoughts of the ablest educators of America.

The Board of Education of Quincy, Ill., like a number of other boards, has the following rule:

"No pupil of African descent shall be permitted to attend any of the public schools of this city other than the colored schools, provided that nothing herein shall be construed to exclude any colored pupil properly qualified from admission to the High School."

The colored people of that city brought suit against the school board to compel them to admit colored pupils to all the schools of the city on the same terms and conditions as white pupils. This case, being the first of the kind ever tried in the courts of Illinois, has been watched with great interest. Eminent counsel were employed, ex-Gov. Palmer representing the colored people. The Court decided for the defense.

Carlyle has at last solved the problem of the ages by declaring that man is a "two-pronged radish." This being true, the teacher is essentially a horticulturist whose chief duty it is to take the little radishes and keep them well weeded and watered until they develop into large plants and are ready for the market. In regard to the cultivation of radishes an agricultural journal makes the following suggestions. Let all teachers study them carefully:

1. Know what kind of radish seed you are using.
2. Have your ground well prepared, spade several times.
3. Do not plant too early or your radishes will grow slowly.
4. Brush the tops often and see that there are no insects in them.
5. Keep the ground mellow and rich around the roots.
6. Pull every six weeks or the radishes will become tough.

An important element of the "Quincy Plan," about which Charles Francis Adams has made such ado, is the selection of one man thoroughly posted in the Science of pedagogics, and allowing him to manage and control the schools as he thinks best. He is permitted to form his own plans, execute them, and do what his judgment approves, untrammelled by the advice or direction of others. If this part of the "Quincy Plan" could be introduced into all schools, what a happy lot of school superintendents there would be! No man can accomplish a great work unless he is absolutely free to act as his own judgment directs. Grant could never succeed until he had command of all the Federal forces. Napoleon would have been a failure as an inferior officer. Had Wellington been compelled to follow his advisors, the laurels of Waterloo would never have been his. The School Superintendent who is worthy of the position he occupies should be left free to do his work in his own way. Such is not the case in most of our western schools. The board of education, the committee of school examiners, the committee on supplies, the egotists of the newspapers, and others are constantly crowding upon him advice which he is compelled to adopt or lose the advisors' support. Let us have reform in this regard. Let the man who is Superintendent be a pope during his term of office, and better results will be attained.

The editor of *Barnes' Educational Monthly* knows something of schools and methods of teaching. His experience in the schools of the West as well as in the Empire State will not permit him, like the editors of certain other educational journals, and one or more metropolitan dailies and weeklies, to gaze on the soaring Quincy bubble without giving it a puncture, even though it be on the side to the windward. It may be excusable for an editor as ignorant of the actual school-room work of today as he who does the penciling for the *New York Tribune* to hail this conversion of the Quincyites to modern school methods as the "starting point in the reorganization of the deplorable American system," and announce that "the sooner a similar revolution takes place in every town and city the better;" but let these belated New England committee-men and New York editors look into the schools of the leading western cities and they will be astonished to learn that what they have but just adopted in the enterprising town of Quincy has been practiced with gratifying success out this way for ten years or more. But let the live editor referred to above tell it in his way:

"Are the committee-men of Quincy aware that there are eight large State Normal Schools in New York, and scores of towns and cities all over our land, where the improved and modern methods of education are taught? There are hundreds of superintendents like Hancock of Dayton, Rickoff of Cleveland, and Harris of St. Louis, and hundreds of principals like Boltwood of Ottawa, and White of Peoria, who have studied most thoroughly both European and American methods and systems, and at whose feet many committee-men could with profit sit."

Again, in noticing the Three Papers by Mr. C. F. Adams, Jr., he says:

"It shows how much behind the educational world Quincy, Mass., has been, and how nearly she has caught up. It would be useless to state the fact that all that is valuable in Quincy methods has been old, in a score of cities and towns, for ten years past, for our Paritan friends would not believe it. Nevertheless the fact remains the same."

There are many evils and embarrassments existing in our system of public education, which it is very difficult to obviate. They are recognized and acknowledged by all who give thought and investigation to the subject, yet they remain in spite of general disapproval. In a strict sense we cannot be said to have any *system* of public education. There is a kind of *uniformity* without *system*. There is a patterning after each other by the different large cities, though each is entirely independent and complete in its own educational matters. There is no community beyond that created by selfish interest. Municipal pride keeps the schools of one city up to the same standard maintained in another city. The superintendent is expected to make periodical pilgrimages to the rival cities and return with his note-book full of new features which must be adopted at once in his schools. In Boston they do so and so and therefore we must do it in Chicago. St. Louis schools are graded after a certain notion of Supt. Harris, whom everybody concedes to be a wise man, and therefore a score or a hundred smaller cities must follow suit. And so there comes to be a similarity between the schools of different parts of the country, though *system* there is none. This spirit of rivalry or emulation has wrought many evils. There are the evils of grading—too much grading, etc.—the evils of examinations, the evils of uncertainty of tenure in office, the evils of discrepancies in salaries, the evils of too high studies in the common school, the evils of defective supervision, and many others;—how shall these evils be remedied? Why can there *not* be some system? Why may not some machinery be put together by which some of these things may be controlled? Why not *have* certain fundamental principles agreed upon, by which all may be governed, and so avoid the very things which now nearly all schools are suffering from but cannot escape?

If the proposed Educational Congress can and will grapple with these questions in a practical way, it will accomplish some good, but if it meets only to—*meet*, and perhaps to indulge its representatives in ventilating their views, without taking any decisive steps whose influence will be felt, then its adjournment had better be till the earliest possible date when it can grapple with these questions understandingly and take some steps toward their solution.

An English writer has been discoursing in a London paper on the evils attending the present system of frequent examinations and the "forcing" and "cramming" processes to which examinees are subjected. He says:

"Everything about our present system is bad. The young learn too much and too fast. The fresh young life is blighted by the pressure put on it at a time when Nature is still busy in develop-

ing the tissues, feeding the ducts, and building up the frame. Education must, of course, begin in youth; but the beginning should be slow, pleasant, considerably planned, and advisedly conducted, so that knowledge may be acquired and the mental qualities *educated* with the least possible sacrifice of health."

It is noticeable that after the teachers themselves have discovered abuses and defects in their methods and practices, and have thoroughly discussed them in their associations, and have entered upon a pretty general reform, then the "laity" begin to note the reform and commend it; and now and then one more backward than the rest in detecting the progress of practical pedagogy, and more forward in trumpeting his views (views which he has observed the wisest teachers approve), comes forward and dogmatically states his opinions as though they *were* his, and had not been thoroughly discussed and adopted by the best teachers long before. So the Quincy men seem to have found out what has been well agreed upon by the progressive ones; and all at once we are startled by an announcement that certain new and important steps have been taken by the enterprising committee men of Quincy, and the whole country is called upon (by the great N. Y. *Tribune*) to investigate and adopt "the Quincy methods."

So after the abuse of examinations has become a threadbare subject among those who examine most, and after a good deal of public denunciation of examinations as they are sometimes conducted, public sentiment begins to be aroused and that same laymen's cry is heard against teachers and superintendents for tolerating such abuse of what was designed to be a means of good.

The Quincy method is a good thing, and all who understand it heartily approve it, but it is nothing new, at least to the advance guard among educators. And cramming is a bad thing (generally) but it is rather late now to apply for a patent on the notion. From the way it is denounced now and then one would think either that it is defended by a respectable number of sensible examiners, or that it is an evil which but few have detected. It is easy enough to cry "stop thief!" when a dozen men are in full chase after said culprit, but it is a far different thing to *start* the fellow in the first place.

OVERDOING IT.

DR. BEARD, in the last number of the *North American Review*, makes some startling statements concerning the growth of peculiar nervous diseases in this country and the spreading of the same from American contagion even in Europe. The extremes of climate in most parts of the United States, the vast possibilities of the country, the feverish hunt for wealth, and the frequent, not to say inevitable reverses, all conspire to produce a morbid condition of the brain and nervous system, which finally betrays itself in the ill-health of both body and mind.

This matter of extremes of climate is one that is not duly considered by physicians themselves, accustomed to the alternate rigors and debilitating influences of a climate where the meeting of extremes is the most familiar phenomenon of nature. Red-hot iron can not be plunged into water without a structural change in its fiber; and yet people fancy that the great extremes of heat and cold, the sweltering spells, and "northers," the alternations of rocketing and diving of the mercury, can be endured without a functional and structural change in the physical constitution.

In the British Isles the equable climate produces a conservation of vital force that is not duly appreciated either there or in

America. A regular building up of physical strength goes on quietly, whose very extent is hidden by its own cheerful, self-contained immobility. More work can be done there on a given quantity or quality of food, than in this country.

Dr. Beard relates the immense quantity of liquor consumed by clergymen of the last generation, without apparent injurious effects. In an equable climate and a tranquil state of mind, the effects of stimulants are not so terrible as in the variable temperature and feverish tumult of business and politics prevailing in the United States. In the latter case the tendency to the brain is aggravated and overpowering; and, as in a conflagration the very elements of checking it become elements of destructive propagation, so a state of nervous excitation is produced to whose maintenance in the individual and in the race otherwise harmless forces contribute.

An amusing illustration of the greater concentration and accumulation of vital force, an example of the greater intensity of physical life in the old countries, is the formidable character of the males of the domestic animals. A European gander or turkey-cock is a more dangerous customer than a common-bred bull in the United States; and a British ram can justly be accused of anything but sheepishness; compared with his transatlantic cousin he is, indeed, a character.

The restlessness, energy, activity, and even the wonderful elasticity of the American character is, to a certain extent, a state of disease. The drain upon the nervous system is too great. The seeds of nervous disease are sown in the children, and their precocity is frequently an evidence of it.

Now for the pedagogical application. Instead of accepting this situation and treating pupils accordingly, what do our educational leaders do? They urge greater zeal on the part of the teacher, greater enthusiasm in his work; which simply means more goading of the already over-goaded child. Feverish preparation for a feverish, breathless examination is the order of the day. What children can do in Germany is held up as an incentive to what they should do in America. Educators will cry *Mens sana in corpore sano*, and immediately formulate a graded course whose fulfillment would be sufficient to destroy both body and mind. "Results, we want," they cry, and the results are chalked out. To achieve such results the grade teacher sets to work. Passing grade is the end; children are the means; and "cram" is the word of command. To compass this end the teacher works as deliberately regardless of the present or future welfare of the children, and as coolly, as Napoleon would calculate on the sacrifice of ten thousand men to accomplish a strategic maneuver.

American children are all more or less nervous and should in many cases be restrained instead of being urged in their studies. The hours of school are generally too long. The attendance is generally too good. The order in the school-room is generally too strict, and the exercise on the play-ground correspondingly violent. All these conditions are inimical to bodily and mental health and growth. In assigning tasks, and especially in accepting the results of them, the teacher should have in his mind three grades of pupils—a health grade, a capacity grade, and a grade of proficiency. Stolid children may be urged; nervous and excitable children should be restrained in their efforts. Instead of this the bright, nervous children are urged along at a break-neck speed, and the ones of duller wits or slower development discouraged with reflection and fault-finding.

The race for results, like an English steeplechase or hare-hunt,

calls forth a great deal of effort at the expense of healthful growth and for very small game. This is not education; nor even intelligent teaching. The urging of the mind up the hill of science is a very laudable pursuit, but both in the quantity of matter to be acquired and in the energy of the acquirement, there is danger of overdoing it.

THE LIBRARY.

NEW BOOKS RECEIVED.

Derry's History of the United States, By Joseph T. Derry. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

This is a handsome well-bound volume of 367 pp., clearly printed on smooth, heavy paper. Its text is clean and its page uniform, with questions at the bottom and no discursive, distracting, distressing foot-notes, such as those in which some authors of U. S. History attempt to show their learning, or their knowledge of historical gossip, and in which they usually succeed in displaying their folly.

The work indicates a return to some degree of fullness in the treatment of the history of our country; it is concise but is not constrainedly brief, condensed, or desiccated. The work is well illustrated, the portraits of the more recent personages being such as would give them no excuse to prosecute the publishers for libel. In the narrative the sceptical method is not followed, the author leaving undisturbed some of our cherished illusions. Written by a southern man, the spirit of the work is not so anti-confederate as the average school history published north of Mason & Dixon's line. The rebellion is called the "War among the States." This title gives the key-note of the work; but it is by no means so pro-southern as A. H. Stephens' history for schools, and indeed it would be well for a change to give our northern schools a touch of its spirit or at least to place it on the teacher's desk so that the tale may be at times fairly and temperately told. The size of the work is a good indication of the attention given to history in the region tributary to Philadelphia; and with the exception of a topical review of the several sections, there are no pedagogical tricks introduced.

The whole is a plain narrative in easy, smooth, and not over eloquent style. The language is such as will engage the attention of the student without trying his mind to comprehend its meaning or firing his imagination with striking periods or glaring pictures.

Common Mind Troubles. By J. Mortimer Granville. Salem: S. E. Cassino, Publisher, Naturalists' Agency.

This little book contains eight valuable essays on what the author has called Common Mind Troubles. They are based upon the supposition that a person afflicted by any failure of the mind to act in its normal capacity, is at first conscious of the embarrassment, and the essays are written as a sort of prescription, or mental tonic, which will assist in the recovery of the lost power.

The author's opinions upon the subjects presented are exceedingly sensible, and his arguments convincing. His words inspire one to "make an effort" as Mr. Dombey's sister would say, and arouse the faculties that are partially inactive. There are few of us that have not at least our "failings," and the book can hardly fail to be read with profit by any one.

It is of convenient size, neatly bound, and the print is clear and does not fatigue the eye. It is essentially an every day book, and we should be glad to see it on every sitting-room table, for the general use of the family.

Milton's Paradise Lost. Books I. and II. With Introduction, Notes, and Diagrams. By Homer B. Sprague, M. A., Ph. D. Boston: Ginn & Heath. 1879.

Milton's Lycidas. Edited with Notes by the same Author. Boston: Ginn & Heath.

The above are bound in one volume. The *Paradise Lost* is distinguished for its comprehending the results of latest investigation and discussion, for its full and scholarly notes, and for its original diagrams, which are designed to illustrate Milton's cosmography.

As an Introduction, the editor presents the critical comments of Masson, Hines, the *Quarterly Review*, DeQuincey, and Lowell. These are followed by "Suggestions to Teachers," and Milton's Preface on the Verse with explanatory notes.

The second poem is introduced by the comments of Morley, R. C. Browne, a Chronology of Incidents, etc., in the life of Milton, and Various Readings in *Lycidas*.

The Notes throughout are very full, and yet not too full. They are suggestive and inspiring to the thorough teacher. It may safely be assumed that any work published by Ginn and Heath is first-class in every respect. Only the best scholars are their authors, and hence the best scholars are sure to use their publications.

The Apostolic Fathers and The Apologists of the Second Century By Rev. Geo. A. Jackson. Edited by Prof. Geo. P. Fisher, D. D. New York: D. Appleton & Co. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co. Price 60 cents.

This work deals with patristic study in the light of the Christian scholarship of to-day. It brings to our view the lives and works of Clement the Roman, Ignatius of Antioch, Polycarp of Smyrna, of Barnabas the Cyprian, also of Hermas and Papias, who are frequently added to the list of "The Fathers."

Passing from these to the second century, the author discusses "The Apologists." The history and etymology of that word "Apologists" is, in this connection, well worth study.

The style of this work is good. The author's sentences are short and to the point, and the extracts from the writings of the early up-builders of the Christian church are well adapted to give to the teacher or the general reader a fair idea of the influence of these works upon the first two or three centuries of the Christian era.

Seeing and Thinking. By the late William Kingdon Clifford, F. R. S., Prof. of Applied Mathematics and Mechanics in University College, London, and Sometime Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. London: Macmillan & Co. Chicago: Jansen, McClurg & Co. Price \$1.

These lectures were delivered by Prof. Clifford at Shoreditch, England. The lectures are: *The Eye and the Brain, The Eye and Seeing, The Brain and Thinking, Of Boundaries in General.*

The first three lectures are upon physiological subjects, the fourth deals more with topics in natural philosophy or physics.

Although not intended as a text-book, this work is a very good one for the teacher to have as a *suggestor*. In this work physiology is treated as more than a mechanical study and some valuable hints may be obtained from it upon the introduction of *soul* into the dry bones of physiological class work.

First Principles of Household Management and Cookery. By Maria Parloa. Boston: Houghton, Osgood & Co. Chicago: Jansen McClurg & Co. Price 75 cents.

Miss Parloa has become so well known throughout the country by means of her cooking classes that her name alone is sufficient to attract attention to a book of this kind. We confess that we took it up, however, feeling that it could not be greatly unlike other books of cookery for the use of classes; but we were pleasantly surprised to find it contained many new suggestions, terse-

ly stated. It is really a book greatly to be desired, especially by young cooks. Its suggestions about the general arrangement of "Housework" are the most practical of any we have ever seen in any book. The recipes are all, with a single exception, clearly expressed and about what the average American family needs for home use. The book closes with some general remarks on the necessity of wholesome food, saying it should be a matter of conscience with the house-keeper to provide food that will be healthful mentally, morally, and physically.

Miss Parloa is certainly entitled to a prominent place among educators, for a knowledge of the best means of supporting life will contribute much to the future well-being of the race.

The Younger Edda: also called *Snorre's Edda* or *The Prose Edda*. An English version of The Foreword; The Fooling of Gylfe; The Afterword; Brage's Talk; The Afterword to Brage's Talk, and the important passages in the poetical diction. With an Introduction, Notes, Vocabulary, and Index. By Rasmus B. Anderson, Professor of the Scandinavian language in the University of Wisconsin. Chicago: S. C. Griggs & Co. London: Trübner & Co. Price \$2.00.

The Prose Edda is the name given to the works of Snorre Sturleson and some minor writers upon early Scandinavian mythology, who wrote in the early part of the thirteenth century. There are three existing manuscript copies of *The Prose Edda*, one in the Royal Library at Copenhagen, one in the University library of that city, and one in the Upsala University library. This work of Prof. Anderson is probably the fullest translation extant. The Elder Edda contains the writings of the early Scandinavian poets, and this Prose Edda is the manual by the aid of which The Elder Edda may be studied and appreciated. The Younger Edda is to the ancient Teutonic religions what the New Testament is to the Christian Church, explaining and vivifying what has gone before. The origin of the name is involved in some obscurity. It has been suggested that it may be a form of the name Odde, who was supposed to be the compiler of the Elder Edda. Others derive the word from a word meaning soul, which in their poetical usage is, also, poetry. It is connected by others with the Sanscrit Veda. But Prof. Anderson seems to prefer the meaning in which the word is used in The Elder Edda, where it means *great-grandmother*. He admires the poetical idea that the great ancestress of the race may, through these works, teach to her descendants the old sacred traditions.

Through them all runs the same thread of truth upon which the Indian legends, the Greek and Latin myths and the apoloques of the Bible are hung. We quote:

"In the beginning, before the heaven and the earth and the sea were created, the great abyss Ginungagap was without form and void, and the spirit of Fimbulvinter moved upon the face of the deep, until the ice cold rivers, the Elivogs, flowing from Niflheim, came in contact with the dazzling flames from Muspelheim. This was before Chaos."

The Asa-faith is very pure. Some of the legends are quite suggestive.

One is of Idun who dwelt in Asgard and possessed the apples of life. Those who partook of them could never know death. She was abducted by the giant Thjasse, and for many years the asas knew not where Idun had gone. At last Loke, the asa by whose fault Idun and her apples had been unprotected from the giant, succeeded in rescuing her from her long durance. Thjasse pursued and overtook him and a terrible battle between the asas and this wicked giant ensued. The gods were successful and Idun and the rejuvenating apples were restored unto Asgard.

The Greek and Roman mythologies are taught in all of our high schools in connection with the study of ancient history. It

would be only fair for teachers to give to students some glimpses of this rich Northern lore. When we remember that Tyr and Odin, Thor and Freyja are named in our daily talk of Tuesdays and Wednesdays, of Thursdays and Fridays, it seems fit that we should give some study to the literature from which we have drawn so many of our common English words, and this book affords an excellent opportunity for such study.

Prof. Anderson's translation is fine. He uses good, Saxon English. Though his translations of the poetical parts are a trifle too literal, a little lacking in that poetic beauty with which Longfellow imbues his Norse translations, the vigor and completeness of the work rank it among the most valuable repositories of Scandinavian literature. The print is clear, and the chapters are short, a feature certainly worth notice, because of its infrequency in books of this style. The book is dedicated to Prof. Boyeson, of Cornell University.

LITERARY NOTES.

—Among recent books published by Henry Holt & Co. are the following: "England," by T. S. Escott; "The Child's Catechism of Common Things," and "Probation," a novel by the author of "The First Violin."

—Victor Hugo not long since told Prof. Boyeson that he had never even heard of an American named Ralph Waldo Emerson. It is supposed that this statement will at once make the great French writer extremely unpopular in Boston.

—R. Worthington is the publisher of Theodore Tilton's latest work, entitled "Thou and I; a Lyric of Human Life, and other Poems." The book is sure to attract attention, and, with the exception of a few poems, contains nothing with which the public is familiar.

—The *Art Amateur* is a magazine recently started in New York but which has none of the deficiencies or crudities of youth. It is well edited and full of information on art matters. As the title would imply, it is especially intended to aid beginners in the various forms of art decoration.

—The current number of *Lippincott's Magazine* has an interesting article on the treatment of the insane, under the title of "The City of the Simple." The subject is one of immediate and ruling importance, for the writer says that the ratio of increase of population in this country is but one and a half per cent per annum while that of the insane is three per cent.

—A. D. F. Randolph & Co. have published "Home Life in Song," a collection of the waifs of newspaper and magazine literature made by the head of the firm. The book is an interesting one, and is an apt illustration of the amount of good reading which may be found in the odd corners of newspapers.

—Houghton, Osgood & Co. are congratulating themselves on the success of the novel, "An Earnest Trifler." The book is the first story of a youthful writer, the daughter of an Ohio lawyer, and in respect to its being a first venture and a very successful one, recalls the experience of the well-known story, "One Summer."

—A. C. Armstrong & Son have now ready Rev. Dr. W. M. Taylor's book of Sermons entitled "The Limitations of Life." Some recent developments have made all sermon writers fearful of the charge of plagiarism, but the reputation of the author of this volume is such that the most painstaking delver will probably be unable to detect any signs of meddling with the thoughts of others.

—"A Fool's Errand" by One of the Fools is a recent novel marked by great originality and power. It is a description of Southern life in these latter days and is not received with entire satisfaction by the Southern press. One paper expresses the opinion that it is likely to do as much harm to the world as "Uncle Tom's Cabin." At all events, whether calculated to do harm or good, it certainly seems to be widely read.

—Houghton, Osgood & Co. have been publishing at intervals for some time past, various issues of the Artist Biography Series until now there are fifteen out. They have recently gathered them together and published them in five volumes, each containing the biography of three famous artists. Mr. Sweetser, the author of the narratives, has given a very entertaining and readable account of his heroes and has added what must prove a very desirable feature to art students in a list of all known pictures and their present location. A large number of heliotypes add beauty and interest to the volumes.

NEW BOOKS FOR TEACHERS.

(Compiled from the Publishers' Weekly.)

Any book named in this list may be obtained by forwarding the price to the publishers of THE EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY. In ordering, please mention the issue in which the name of the book appeared.

ANDREWS, E. A., ed. A new Latin dictionary, founded on the tr. of Freund's Latin German lexicon; rev., enl., and in a great part rewritten by Charlton T. Lewis and C. Short. N. Y., Harper, 1879. 14-2019 p. 4to. (Harper's Latin dictionary). bds., \$8 50; shp., \$9 50; hf. leather, \$10 50; Russ., \$12 50.

A tr. of Dr. W. Freund's Latin-German lexicon, ed. by the late E. A. Andrews, LL. D., was first published in 1850, and has been a standard work in colleges ever since; the present reconstruction of the work was undertaken, to meet the great advances in sciences. The first 216 p. are the work of Prof. C. Short, LL. D., of Columbia College; the remainder of the book is the work of Mr. Lewis. Printed in clear type, with the words and derivatives in full-faced letters.

BROOKES, C. Banks. Popular guide to the terms of art and science. Phil., J. B. Lippincott & Co., 1879. 227 p. 12 mo. cl., \$1.

Gives under the popular names of the various sciences and arts (alphabetically arranged) the scientific nomenclature, and also all the important terms connected with, whether popular or technical, or relating to origin, growth, history, etc. Object of work is to enable a non-professional or non-scientific person to find the technical terms used in the arts and sciences by merely knowing the popular words relating thereto, and to translate into popular language technical terms which he may meet with but not understand. Index.

WILSON, W. D., D.D. Lectures on the psychology of thought and action, comparative and human. 2d ed., rev., enl. and rearranged. Ithaca, N. Y., Andrus & Church, 1880 [1879]. 3-392 p. 12 mo. cl., \$2.

13 lectures on: The nervous system; Sensation; Consciousness; Sense perception; False perception and imagination; Insight and reasoning; The nature and origin of ideas; Memory and recollection; Instinct and volition; The active emotions; Rational sentiments; Voluntary action; Nature and reality of mind.

GRANVILLE, J. Mortimer. The secret of a clear head. Salem, S. E. Cassino (Naturalists' Agency), 1879. 5-102 p. 16 mo. cl., 50 c.

8 papers on: Temperature; Habit; Time; Pleasure; Self-importance; Consistency; Simplicity; The secret of a clear head. Forming the complement of a number of papers published a short time ago, under the title of "Common mind troubles." They are designed to help the weak and worried to avoid the peril of mind disease.

WORK FOR FRIDAY AFTERNOONS.

WHAT CAN BE DONE WITH A TWELVE DOLLAR MICROSCOPE.—II.

PROF. S. CALVIN, Iowa University.

FOR our first experiment this week it will be an advantage if we can set aside our twelve-dollar microscope for a few minutes and procure access to one having a power of about 400 diameters. With the tip of your pen-knife take a very small quantity of some insoluble, finely divided powder, such as dry gamboge, mix it thoroughly on a slide with a drop of water and cover with a thin cover glass. Thin covers may be obtained from any optician and are an absolute necessity when using the medium or higher powers of the microscope. Any of the mixture extending beyond the edges of the cover may be removed with a bit of blotting paper. Now focus carefully and observe the minute currents sweeping the particles of gamboge in one or more directions. I call your attention to these currents because you are sure to see them anyway, but they are of no earthly importance. Notice accurately the movements they produce and then disregard them altogether. Eliminating the effect of currents you are prepared to see other movements. The little restless particles suspended in the water all seem seized with a curious impulse to spin and dance. They perch and crowd and jostle each other and seem to change from place to place as if endowed with life. It is not until we have watched them some time that the movements are resolved into simple oscillations. It is needless to say that vitality is in no way accountable for these motions; we were particular to select for the experiment an inorganic thing. The motions are purely physical and have attained celebrity among observers under the name of *Brownian movements*. Familiarity with Brownian motion is essential to a correct interpretation of many phenomena that will demand attention in the study of organic things. Tiny granules liberated from the cells of plants, and fatty matter or other substance, in a state of minute subdivision, in the blood or tissue of animals, as often found dancing about under our lenses and suggesting the

presence of countless hordes of parasitic organisms, are only Brownian particles agitated by a mere physical impulse.

Take a drop of milk, dilute and mix thoroughly with about twice as much water, then mount and examine with a power of three or four hundred, and you have, among the smaller globules, a beautiful exhibition of organic particles engaged in the "Brownian dance." The use of the higher power is desirable only for the first observations; with a little experience we should see Brownian movements with the smaller instruments.

We have all, doubtless, entertained the belief sometime, that one of the fundamental distinctions among the kingdoms of Nature is expressed by the two words, *animals move*. We are now ready, I hope, to record, as a fact fraught with important bearings on such crude biological distinctions, that there are movements going on continually among all sorts of microscopic particles with which neither animals nor plants, as such, have anything to do. Having fairly mastered the full significance of that fact let us have recourse once more to pond life. Either in the ponds themselves or in the bottles and tanks that contain our last week's collections, there will be found very delicate, pale, bluish-green filaments, generally finer than the threads of our first alga and yet resembling them in some respects. The chlorophyll is not so brilliant nor is it disposed in the same way, but each filament consists of a linear series of cells. This particular alga is known as *Oscillatoria*, and under the microscope each looped and tangled thread is found to be going through the most agonizing contortions, slowly straightening and bending and twisting and shifting itself, and seemingly failing with all its writhings to find a position of ease or comfort. If the cluster of *Oscillatoria* be growing rapidly there will be specimens of every length from little club-like pieces of only a few cells to long wavy filaments that expose only a portion of their length while winding back and forth across the microscopic field. And the shorter pieces rotate themselves about any part as an axis, or glide back and forth in the direction of their length with apparent deliberation and the utmost indifference as to which end goes foremost.

While fixing these observations in the mind, please remember that *Oscillatoria* is a plant; and now lay it aside while you examine some diatoms that must, ere this, have excited curiosity by presenting themselves in the field of your instrument. Diatoms are beautiful little plants, simpler, if anything, than an *Oscillatoria*, for they consist essentially of a single cell. They abound in all ponds clinging to Algæ and other submerged objects, or scattered freely over the bottom. Collections of all kinds of material taken at random from all kinds of ponds are sure to contain more or less of them. They have always been regarded with much interest, by the microscopist, on account of the graceful outlines of the crystal case which constitutes the cell wall, as well as for the extreme delicacy of the lines engraved upon its surface. The demand for instruments that would resolve diatom markings has had no small effect in stimulating the production of more and more perfect lenses for the microscope, and when the account of our indebtedness for the precision of that instrument is finally made up, we will have to award a large share of credit to the indescribably minute and perfect and beautiful shells of glass that specks of living protoplasm are continually elaborating for their own defense, in the recesses of every creek and pond. Some of our fresh-water diatoms are marked by striæ so delicate and close that a hundred thousand of them might be ruled in the space of an inch, and it tests the powers of many higher priced microscopes, even when aided by the most skillfully man-

aged light, to show the individual lines. It will be no disappointment, then, if our little microscope shows only the form of the diatom without the markings, but we will find just as much profit in observing some other things that it will show. Diatoms, be it known, are none of your lazy, sedentary plants, but restless, roving fellows bent on seeing the world for themselves, and their interesting, gliding movements are fairly within the powers of our twelve-dollar instrument. One of the most common of diatoms has the shape of a very symmetrical little boat pointed at each end, and it is in recognition of this resemblance that it has been called *Navicula*. We may get scores of *Naviculæ* on the slide at once, and the gliding movements of these fairy boats, each directed by the caprice of its fairy boatman, the speck of living, structurless protoplasm within, present a scene compared with which the maneuvering of no royal fleet could be more impressive.

In some of the bottles of pond-water we are sure to find curious little spheres that go rolling about with a motion that is the very perfection of gracefulness. The color is pale yellowish-green, and by holding the bottle up to the light they can be easily detected and fished out with a dipping tube. Transfer, with a drop of water, to a slide having a cell or small cavity for holding liquids, leave uncovered and examine with microscope erect. If the cell is deep enough, use a thin cover and incline the instrument if more convenient. You have before you the *Volvox*, and it is not necessary to add that it is a microscopic object of unusual interest and beauty. The sphere is perfectly transparent except that dots of greenish protoplasm stud the surface at more or less regular intervals. Watch its easy, graceful motion as it rolls over and over, moving back and forth, and changing the axis of revolution and the direction of motion to suit any whim or respond to any impulse. Observe what happens when it encounters some obstacle; how, wiser than some hot-headed creatures that boast a higher organization, it gracefully bows to the impossible and tries some other road. If two or more are in the cell together you will see them taking pains to avoid each other when there is a possibility of a collision. When fairly stranded or progress stopped in any way, you can see the water near the surface of the sphere strongly agitated and might infer the nature of the organs by which *Volvox* is propelled, though our little instrument will hardly show them. When killed and stained with some staining fluid, and examined with a power of three or four hundred, the propelling organs become visible. Each little spot upon the surface is resolved into a pear-shaped mass of protoplasm embedded in the transparent substance of the sphere and furnished with a pair of hair-like lashes protruding beyond the surface. These lashes are called cilia and are the organs of locomotion, not only in *Volvox*, but in thousands of the lower forms, both of animals and plants. In no grade of organization, indeed, do we rise beyond some dependence on ciliary action, for even in the highest mammals, ciliated cells perform essential service in all the respiratory passages.

Each little speck that dots the surface may be regarded as an individual, and the sphere a colony or commonwealth of individuals united by a common bond. The bond, however, is not a mere idea; it is a material thing. Little cords of protoplasm reach out from each point to all adjacent ones and form a perfect maze of triangles over the whole surface. The cords have some resemblance, but nothing more, to nervous commissures, though they may perform a function somewhat analogous by securing unity of action among the separate individuals. Within

the larger sphere, may usually be seen a number of others like the parent in everything but size, while within these again are still others—the beginning of the third generation.

Such is *Volvox*, and yet, with all its freedom and grace of motion, and other interesting characteristics, it must take its place with *Spirogyra*, *Oscillatoria*, and *Navicula* away down among the *Algæ*. It is only a plant; but the more we study plants, the more do we find the foundations for the old time distinctions between plants and animals crumbling away. Naturalists, at present, cannot point out any real ground of difference on which to found definitions of two organic kingdoms. One kingdom, with active, living protoplasm as its basis, may be recognized and that is about all. Among the higher orders, it will always be necessary and convenient to recognize plants as distinct from animals, and some of the grounds of distinction may be pointed out hereafter. Meanwhile let us try to appreciate the full importance of the biological facts taught by *Oscillatoria*, *Navicula*, and *Volvox*.

THE RECESS.

—A little girl in our Sunday-school, who had been pulling her doll to pieces, during the week, was asked by the teacher: "What was Adam made of?" Answer—"Sawdust."

—A little girl at school read thus: "The widow lived on a limbacy left her by a relative." "What did you call that word?" asked the teacher; "the word is legacy, not limbacy." "But," said the little girl, "my sister says I must say limb, not leg."

—A lecturer was explaining to a little girl how a lobster cast his shell when he had outgrown it. Said he, "What do you do when you have outgrown your clothes? You cast them aside do you not?" "Oh, no," replied the little one, "we let out the tucks."

—"Maria," observed Mr. Holcomb, as he was putting on his clothes, "there ain't no patch on them breeches yet." "I can't fix it now, no way. I'm too busy." "Well, give me the patch, then, an' I'll carry it around with me. I don't want people to think I can't afford the cloth."

—A POSER.—Maud: "Mamma, where do people go to when they die?" Mamma: "Oh, you must not ask such questions, dear; you will understand all about it when you are older." Maud, (after thinking it over for some minutes): "Mamma, do you know all about it?"—*Harvard Lampoon*.

—"Peter, what are you doing to that boy?" asked a schoolmaster. "He wanted to know if you take ten from seventeen how many will remain; I took ten of his apples to show him, and now he wants me to give 'em back." "Well, why don't you do it?" "Coz, sir, he would forget how many are left."

—Ethan Allen, whose misfortune it was to have a tergagant for a wife, had, and deserved, a reputation for courage of the leonine kind. Some wags thought to frighten him once; but they mistook their man. One of them, arrayed in a sheet, stepped in front of him in the road late one dark night when he was on his way homeward. Ethan stopped, looked at the spectre, and without a moment's hesitation, exclaimed: "If you come from Heaven, I don't fear you. If you are the devil, come home and spend the night with me—I married your sister." His neighbors never sought to test his courage after that. All of which comes from Vermont direct.

—In the grammar department of one of our public schools, a few days since, the teacher, after talking with her class on the subject of mythology, read to them as follows: "Vulcan, smith, architect, and chariot-builder for the gods on Mount Olympus, built their houses, constructed their furniture," etc. The following day the subject of the preceding day was given as a language lesson, and as no mention was made of Vulcan, the teacher asked the class who built the houses for the gods on Mount Olympus? For a while the children seemed lost in profound thought, when suddenly a gleam of intelligence illuminated the face of one little girl, and she replied "I can't think of his first name, but his last name is Smith!"—*Boston Transcript*.

A dispatch from Fairplay reports the discovery of uranium in the Sacramento mining district, a mineral found in Bohemia, but never before in this country, as far as known. The present discovery was made by H. L. Rice. The ore runs 60 per cent. Uranium is worth \$1,000 a ton.

OFFICIAL DEPARTMENT.

ILLINOIS—MEETINGS AND RECORDS OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS.

MEETINGS.

Section 42 of the school law provides that boards of school directors shall hold regular meetings at such times as they shall designate: that they may hold special meetings, as occasion may require, at the call of the president or any two members of the board; and that "no official business shall be transacted by the board except at a regular or special meeting."

This last clause is an important and much-needed amendment, since it makes it illegal for the directors, acting separately, to enter into any contract, purchase any article, or to give an order in payment therefor, unless previously authorized by the board so to do.

It practically puts a stop to the pernicious practice, so persistently and successfully followed by those who have for sale inferior articles for the use of schools, and whose only hope of success in disposing of them at paying prices lies in their ability to gain the assent and signature of directors, taken singly, and on the spur of the moment, before they can meet and consult.

The occupation of this class of agents is now gone—it is to be hoped forever.

Contracts thus made and orders thus obtained are no longer legal.

Directors who have not already done so should at once designate when and how frequently they will hold regular meetings.

As teachers are entitled to their pay monthly, it would seem to be proper for directors to have a regular meeting each month.

But should it be inconvenient for the board to meet so often, it is held that the board may legally authorize two of their number (naming them) to examine and certify the schedule each month, and issue an order for the teachers' pay, a record being made of the action of the board.

The board may instruct one of their number to act for them, and his action in accordance with the instructions—say in the purchase of a certain amount of wood or coal at a certain price—would bind the board, since, in the transactions he is the legal representative of the board.

Two directors constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

Hence, if two directors are present at a meeting they may transact any business within the sphere of their duties.

All members are entitled, by every principle of fairness and honesty, to a notice of the meeting if it is practicable to give all a notice; but as a matter of law, if the third director is not present at the meeting nor even notified of it, this will not make void the action of the majority who are present.

RECORDS.

Another clause of this section authorizes directors to use any funds belonging to the district, and not otherwise appropriated, for the purchase of a suitable book for their records, and requires that "the said records shall be kept in a punctual, orderly, and reliable manner," and that the same "shall be signed by the president and clerk."

The duty of procuring such a book, and of using it as the law directs, is imperative, and it is of the utmost importance that a faithful record be kept of all official school business.

Nearly ten years ago Dr. Bateman said:

"Lack of such official records has caused more law suits and losses, more confusion and trouble, in the financial and general business administration of the school system, than any other one thing."

This was true then; and, although there has been a great improvement in these matters since, it is true to-day.

And because there are so many districts in the state in which the requirements of the law regarding the keeping of records are still utterly disregarded, the attention of directors is hereby called to the provisions of the law bearing upon this subject.

It will not answer the purpose of the law to have records kept upon loose sheets or scraps of paper.

Well bound books that are suitable, and so arranged that the records can be kept in a "punctual, orderly, and reliable manner," must be procured.

The language of the law is explicit and mandatory—"the directors shall appoint one of their number clerk, who shall keep a record of all the official acts of the board in a well bound book, provided for the purpose."

Since no official business can now be transacted by the directors except at a regular or special meeting, it seems to be even more important now than ever before that an accurate record shall be made and kept of all the official business of the board.

A compliance with these provisions of the law will aid and protect directors in the proper discharge of their official duties, and I sincerely hope that no board of directors will fail to keep, as the law directs, a record of all their official acts.

JAMES P. SLADE,
Superintendent of Public Instruction.

THE STATES.

ILLINOIS.—Supt. A. R. Sabin, of Lake county, has opened an educational column in the *Lake County Tidings*. He is pointed and practical in what he says.

With all our talk about permanency of teachers we have many changes every year in the school principalships of our state. Here are the names of some that we know who are doing their first year's superintendence in their respective places: Annawan, Nat Edgar Hawes; Avon, H. L. F. Roberson; Bement, T. C. Clendenen; Blue Mound, Andrew Wilson; Butley, J. W.; Gowdy; Cerro Gordo, Olive E. Coffeen; Charleston, E. J. Hoenshell; Cheshan, S. G. Haley; Chillicothe, J. W. Moffitt; Cobden, J. S. England; Delavan, H. C. Forbes; Farmington, Frank Matthews; Hillsboro, J. N. Dewell; LaMoille, B. F. Stocks; Lena, G. M. Herrick; Lewistown, Le Roy Bates; Lexington, L. S. Rowell; Litchfield, T. J. Charles; Macomb, Geo. Blount; Mattoon, E. P. Rose; Minonk, L. C. Dougherty; Monticello, G. A. Burgess; Mt. Morris, Miss E. Brown; Odin, J. Hobbs; Polo, M. Moore; Ridge Farm, C. V. Guy; Shelbyville, Chas. L. Howard; Sullivan, J. W. Cokenower; South Wyoming, A. B. Sill; Tuscola, S. M. Ware; Windsor, F. F. Hughes; Toulon, F. S. Rosetter; Woodhull, W. W. Warner; Oneida, J. H. Graham; Altona, A. Edwards; St. Augustine, T. L. McGirr; North Abingdon, G. W. Oldfather; South Abingdon, W. D. Rackley; Illiopolis, W. S. Ramey; Mokena, H. C. Paddock.

Mr. J. W. Coultas, formerly superintendent of schools at Warsaw, has invented an instrument called the lamposcope, which is designed to aid in telescopic observation. It is pronounced by a number of astronomers and opticians to be of incalculable value in cleaning, brightening, and giving sharp definition to telescopic objects. Mr. Coultas is at present in Chicago, and may be found at the office of the WEEKLY.

Moline and Peoria are both conducting successful public night schools.

Prof. Wetzell, of Gibson City, conducts an educational department in the *Courier* of that place.

F. L. Cooper of Gibson takes charge of the educational department in the *Paxton Record*.

Sullivan public schools gave a Thanksgiving supper that netted them \$51.30.

The Monticello high school is preparing to give an entertainment on the evening of Dec. 22, for the purpose of obtaining funds with which to start a reference library. A wide-awake principal like Mr. Burgess will not wait for the necessary helps because the board will not procure them.

Institutes.—The teachers of Plainfield, Will Co., have a Friday evening institute. Their last was Dec. 19. The Joliet teachers, at their meeting on Saturday, Dec. 6, brought in several pupils to draw maps and then used the time of the session, inspecting the work and discussing methods. The McHenry Co. Teachers' Association recently had an interesting meeting at Woodstock. We are glad to notice that many of these teachers' societies are accumulating a small fund. This will hold them together and will give them more power. McHenry teachers meet again Jan. 19, at the same place. The regular monthly institute of Peoria teachers occurred Dec. 13, at the high school building, Supt. Dougherty in the chair. After interesting exercises in the Grammar, Intermediate, and Primary sections they all again met in the general institute and heard a very excellent paper from Mr. Knepper on Language Lessons. These meetings occur every month, second Saturday.

MINNESOTA.—G. T. Olds, of St. Charles, walks three and one-half miles to his school in the morning, teaches all day, and walks back in the evening. He must read his educational journals while on the road.

At the semi-annual meeting of the Board of Normal Regents held Dec. 9, Prin. Shepard reported an enrollment in the Normal Department of 133; in the Model School 135; total, 268. This attendance is stated to be larger than ever before in the history of the school. Prin. John reported an enrollment in the Normal Department of 122; in the Model School 65. Prin. Kiehle's report shows an enrollment in the Normal Department of 126; in the Model School 70. Supt. Bent offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the principal, or a teacher in each Normal School at Winona and Mankato, shall be freed from work in those schools for State Institutes not less than four weeks, in the aggregate, to the principal or teacher so freed, between the middle of March and the 1st of May in each year.

Resolved, That the same regulation apply to the Normal School at St. Cloud between the middle of September and the 1st of November of each year.

The total number of graduates from the three schools has reached the round number of 700. The number of graduates from the several schools for the past year were as follows: Winona, 42; Mankato, 19; St. Cloud, 28; total, 82. The receipts of the schools are derived from annual appropriations of \$12,000 to the Winona school, and \$9,000 to each of the others, the balance being the receipts for tuition. The following gentlemen were appointed as a committee to visit the schools: Winona school—O. V. Tousley and S. C. Gale, Minneapolis. St. Cloud school—Prof. B. F. Wright, St. Paul, and Dr. G. W. T. Wright. Mankato school—Prof. B. M. Reynolds Northfield, and W. B. Mitchell, St. Cloud.

OHIO.—The report of the Columbus public schools for the month ending Nov. 21, shows a total registration of 7,072—3,635 girls and 3,437 boys. Average enrollment, 6,586.7; average daily attendance, 6,188.8; average daily absence, 397.9; percentage of attendance, 94. The high school has 570 pupils; the grammar schools, 2,096; and the primary departments, 3,965. Teachers employed, 145. The election of a new principal of the high school will occur at the next meeting of the Board of Education. The candidates at present in the field are the Acting Principal, Prof. A. G. Farr, and Prof. Alston Ellis, formerly superintendent at Hamilton, in this state, but more lately representing the school-book interests of Harper & Brothers. The recent book-fight in Columbus has resulted in an offer by a local firm to furnish all text-books at about twenty per cent discount, thus effecting, they say, a saving of \$2,000 to \$3,000 per year for the buyers of such books in the city.

The muddle in the Cleveland Board of Education, which has prevailed several months, was settled at the last meeting by rescinding a former resolution appointing Prof. N. Coe Stewart teacher of music at \$1,800 a year, and restoring his salary to \$2,000.

PENNSYLVANIA.—The thirty-third annual session of the Centre County Teachers' Institute will be held at Bellefonte commencing Tuesday, Dec. 23, at 9 o'clock A. M., and closing Friday evening, Dec. 26. The day sessions will be conducted by Dr. N. C. Schaeffer, Prof. W. A. Krise, Miss Delia T. Smith, Miss J. Ettie Crane, and J. Mason Duncan. Brief lectures will also be given by Rev. D. M. Wolf, H. H. Hershberger, C. C. Zeigler, C. S. Dannley, Prof. C. L. Gramley, and Rev. D. G. Kline. Evening lectures will be delivered by Dr. N. C. Schaeffer, Dr. Geo. P. Hayes, and Rev. D. K. Nesbit. An admission fee of 25 cents will be charged for two of the above lectures. The institute will be under the general management of County Supt. Henry Meyer.

IOWA.—S. F. Cooper, the United States Consul, at Glasgow, Col., has sent Iowa College a very fine painting, a large and elegant view of "Ben Dhalick." It is the work of Charles Leslie, and came to Grinnell, handsomely framed and expenses paid by the generous giver. Such gifts are appreciated by this popular college.

The State Center *Enterprise* pays Miss Lucy Curtis a very high compliment in an article referring to her plan of adhering to the Topical method of recitation. This lady is known all over the state as an earnest, enthusiastic teacher. The *Enterprise* regards her "as the ablest instructress in Iowa."

The Tipton schools, of which Mr. O. C. Scott is principal, have an average attendance of 332.4; and a total enrollment of 373.

The educational editor of the Tipton *Advertiser* puts it in this way: "Liberty for all during the holidays—Independence for some. How many?"

The *Central School Journal* was two years old last month. It is a vigorous, healthy-looking two-year old.

Iowa College has lost her talented assistant lady principal, Miss Helen S. Whitcomb, who was married recently to Dr. Henry M. Hobart, of Chicago.

The Jackson County Teachers' Association will meet at Andrew next Saturday. An interesting program has been prepared.

Mr. S. E. Beede, western agent of the prosperous firm of Robt. S. Davis & Co., has our thanks for a set of Greenleaf's arithmetics. We are glad to know that this well-tried and justly-popular series is used in many of the best schools of the state.

Mr. W. J. Shoup, editor of the *Normal Monthly*, is president of the State Teachers' Association. Mr. W. J. Medes, one of the editors of the *Central School Journal*, is a vice-president of the Association. Mr. John W. Rowley, another editor of the *Central*, is president of one wing of the State Association. So!

C. H. Clemmer, a prominent educator, and until the first of next January superintendent of the Scott county schools, is president of a debating club.

Mr. W. F. L. Sanders, New Albany, Ind., has our thanks for a copy of

Analysis by Diagrams, an interesting and valuable work of which he is the author. The collection of sentences, the system of diagrams, the notes and explanations, and the copious index are carefully prepared and arranged.

The *Central School Journal* denies that it ever advocated "a split in the State Teachers' Association." It thinks however that the executive committee "made a mistake in locating the annual meeting at Independence." This charge ought to bring the chairman of the Executive Committee to his feet: "President Eldridge wrote us that he would send us the program as soon as it was printed. Yet in the face of this, he sent other educational papers copies and intentionally omitted to forward one to the *Central*. Of course we do not blame the Association for this, but trust that in the future its Executive Committee will see that no such favoritism is shown."

A wandering pedagogue tells an exchange what he saw while visiting the State Reform School at Eldora. Mr. Winenans is the general superintendent. An air of order, quietness, and cleanliness pervades. The farm of about seven hundred acres is in a fine condition. The boys are required to attend school one-half of the day and to work the other half. From this rule there is no shadow of turning except in case of sickness. A wise regulation is observed in regard to the large and small boys. They are not allowed to go together. Nearly all of the boys make wonderful progress in their studies. The new hall, which is a six story brick building, will be ready for use before long. It is a fine, well-ventilated, conveniently-arranged structure. On the whole the aforementioned nomad was well pleased with this splendid state institution, which is an honor and a credit to the commonwealth.

MISSOURI.—The *Kansas City Mail* of Nov. 21 contains Supt. J. M. Greenwood's term report for term ending Nov. 14. Total enrollment 5,162; average number belonging, 4,212; average attendance, 3,989. Last year the enrollment for the corresponding term was 4,054 or 1,108 less than this year. This shows an increase of 27 per cent. The following is an outline of the work as represented in seven school rooms corresponding to the seven grades in the ward schools, and though the work in each room may vary somewhat from this, nevertheless it is a tolerably fair representation of the work in each of the other schools. In general, the pupils in each room are divided into two classes or sections, and the totals show not only the time of recitation, but also that of preparation of study. Room No. 1. First Grade—To reading and spelling, 150 minutes; writing and drawing, 45 minutes; numbers, 45 minutes. Room No. 2. Second Grade—Reading, 135 minutes; writing and drawing, 35 minutes; numbers, 40 minutes; singing, 10 minutes. Room No. 3. Third Grade—Reading and spelling, 135 minutes; writing and drawing, 35 minutes; numbers, 40 minutes; singing, 15 minutes. Room No. 4. Fourth Grade—Reading and Spelling, 95 minutes; arithmetic, 95 minutes; writing, 40 minutes; drawing, 15 minutes; singing, 15 minutes. Room No. 5. Fifth Grade—Reading and spelling, 90 minutes; arithmetic, 90 minutes; language, 20 minutes; geography, 35 minutes; singing, 15 minutes. Room No. 6. Sixth Grade—Reading and spelling, 80 minutes; arithmetic, 90 minutes; grammar, 50 minutes; geography, 50 minutes; writing and drawing, 30 minutes; alternating; singing, 15 minutes. Room No. 7. Seventh Grade—Reading and spelling, 45 minutes; arithmetic, 90 minutes; grammar, 45 minutes; geography, 50 minutes; United States History, 60 minutes; writing and drawing, 60 minutes, alternating. There is also much practice work in writing not represented because some of the lessons are prepared on slates or paper, and in this way the pupil puts into practice writing and composition, using such skill as he had previously acquired.

MICHIGAN.—The schools at Grand Haven are moving on to the satisfaction of all concerned. It is Supt. Phillips' third year.

Prin. Frank Millis, of Dryden, sends the WEEKLY the following items: Principals—Lapeer, O. G. Owen; Almont, George Grant; Imlay City, Chas. May; Metamora, P. M. Parker; Attica, C. Q. Tappan. The schools of the county in general were never more prosperous or ably managed, the principals having all received normal instruction. Nearly all the graded schools make a practice of publishing a monthly statement of the condition of the school in the county papers. In Dryden there are 350 inhabitants, and 132 pupils enrolled. Three teachers are employed. Last month the per cent of attendance was 92. The teachers and pupils are now decorating their school-rooms with pictures, mottoes, and plants. A regular monthly report is made to each parent informing him of the advancement of his children. The practice is productive of much good.

Negaunee has 1,233 children between 5 and 20 years of age, of whom 807

were in school during the past year. V. B. Cochran, the superintendent, is paid \$1,450, and is deservedly popular with both patrons and pupils. He is one of the pioneer teachers of the Lake Superior region.

Tecumseh reports \$445 received for tuition fees during the past year. Supt. Spencer is evidently appreciated about home as well as abroad. Many school boards in the state would be pleased to learn how they can reduce the cost of incidentals to 83 cents per capita. This is the cost at Tecumseh.

Olivet College reports a faculty of 12 instructors; 128 graduates since it was chartered in 1859; 7,000 volumes in library; additions to library during the past year \$220; average cost of tuition \$15 to \$21; average cost of board \$2 per week; total expenses for the year, \$15,193.24, of which \$1,500 was for permanent improvements.

Kalamazoo College was chartered in 1855, since which time it has graduated 84 students. Last year it had 116 students, and had an income of \$4,210.60 from productive funds. The annual cost of tuition per student is \$18, and average cost of board \$250. It has buildings and grounds valued at \$100,000, and a library of \$3,138 volumes.

Miss J. A. King of Charlotte and Miss Belle Widner of Wyandotte are among the most enterprising and intelligent of our city superintendents. Their reports to the department of public instruction are always made with promptness and business-like fidelity. Charlotte has a school census of 790, and paid last year \$6,148.25 for superintendence and instruction. Miss King received \$1,000 as superintendent. Wyandotte has 4,000 inhabitants, and 1,200 school children. The average cost of educating the 679 pupils in school last year was \$8.29.

Prof. B. R. Gass, superintendent of the Niles schools, has been in a failing state of health for some time.

The supreme court has declared that the school tax of Alpena is void. About \$25,000 was involved.

East Saginaw, Mich., Dec. 10.—J. C. Jones, superintendent of the public schools of this city, has been convicted of assault and battery upon a 13-year-old child of Henry Gamble, and Justice Martin to-day fined him \$25 and costs of prosecution, or 60 days in the county jail. Mr. Jones has appealed the case to the circuit court. The matter creates great interest, and a pressure will be brought to bear to compel the removal of the superintendent.—*Detroit Evening News*.

The abolishment of the *Oracle*, the junior hop, the senior reception, and class day at the University will place the college year 1879-80 in college annals as the destroyer of old and honored customs.

Paul H. Hanus, University class of '78, a member of the faculty of the Denver high school, has accepted the chair of mathematics in the State University of Colorado.

The industrial school at Grand Rapids is attended by 35 girls, who are said to be making good progress both in books, needle-work, and household duties.

The art department of the Somerville school at Port Huron opened Dec. 2, under the supervision of Miss Mary A. Thompson, a graduate of the New York Academy of Design.

Mt. Clemens, with a population of 3,400, has a school census of 928. Wesley Sears is principal of the schools, at a salary of \$1,200. The average age of its high school graduates is 18 years.

Pontiac had 75 non-resident pupils last year, who contributed \$936.77 tuition money to the school fund of the district. Fifty-five of these were in the high school, which numbered 130.

The schools of Kalamazoo enrolled 1,940 pupils last year, and had an average attendance of 1,364. The average *per capita* cost of education, based on the average number belonging, was \$14.84.

During the first three months of the present school year 1,495 pupils were enrolled in the Saginaw City schools. The average daily attendance was 1,251. The corresponding figures for last year were 1,401 and 1,155.

Miss Hattie Maxson is employed for a fifth term in the North Leslie school. When our country districts generally employ their teachers by the year rather than by the term, as now, one great step will have been taken toward better schools.

Albion College has graduated 108 student since it was chartered in 1861. The college library now numbers 2,200 volumes, of which 400 were added during the past year. Its productive funds amount to \$165,000, which yield an annual income of \$12,637.73.

The *Lansing Republican* continues to furnish this column many of its freshest items.

INDIANA.—Mr. J. Keith is principal of the Bicknell public schools, and one of the leading teachers of the county.

The Logansport *Daily Journal* says that a comparison of the examination papers of the fourth year class (primary dept.) of the public schools of that city, made four years ago for exhibition at the Centennial, and similar papers made last month in the regular school course, shows the work of the latter to be "vastly superior" to that of the former. The conclusion is that the public schools of Logansport are making gratifying progress, and are probably not excelled by any in the state.

Supt. Moon, of St. Joseph county, will hold the county institute this year Christmas week at the high school building in Mishawaka. An able corps of instructors has been engaged for the work, and arrangements have been made for four lectures to be delivered in the opera house in that place.

—The tenth volume of the "Encyclopedia Britannica" is now out, and, like its predecessors, is published in three different editions. Messrs. Little, Brown & Co. issue the standard Edinburgh edition of A. & C. Black; Charles Scribner's Sons have an exact copy of this edition but printed on thinner paper and with narrower margins. J. M. Stoddart & Co., of Philadelphia, publish a reprint of the original work with the illustrations by American artists. It claims also to have made a few corrections where mistakes have been discovered by the American editors.

THE HOME.

FOR THE EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY.
HANDED DOWN—APRIL.

By TARPLEY STARR.

Celestial day! sometimes I think
That "God's day" might be thus,
Only, *can this day ever fade?*
So much of Heaven seems here inlaid,
As if by Angels ready-made,
And handed down to us.

Great dome of peace! as here I gaze
Far up thy blue unbound,
Sunbeams seem ladder dropped below,
Down which the angels come and go,
To fresco earth in heaven's own hue,
And hang her pictures round.

Creation's dawn is not more fair,
As Eve's young eyes enclose;
No fresher fragrance filled the air,
No blooming trees more lovelier there,
No sweeter songs out everywhere,
Than this new morning knows.

What heart dare be bowed down with care,
Beneath a sky like THIS—
Where the dear God's calm face looks through?
Earth's noisy tides abashed sink low,
Hushed to a tender, even flow,
Into one sea of peace.

O, moiling, toiling world, be still,
Enchanted ground is near;
This unlocked world of blue and green!
Unbar the gates so fast between—
These cold, dead gates that shut us in!—
And view thy Eden here.

HOLIDAYS.

The holiest of all holidays are those
Kept by ourselves in silence and apart,—
The secret anniversaries of the heart,
When the full river of feeling overflows;—
The happy days unclouded to their close,
The sudden joys that out of darkness start
As flames from ashes; swift desires, that dart
Like swallows singing down each wind that blows!
White as the gleam of a receding sail;
White as a cloud that floats and fades in air,
White as the whitest lily on a stream,
These tender memories are; a fairy tale
Of some enchanted land we know not where,
But lovely as a landscape in a dream.

—H. W. Longfellow

THE ACADEMY PLAGUE.

By FANNIE E. TOWNSLEY.

THERE were better days in our village once. B— Academy used to be known as the best school in the country for boys—and for girls, too.

From its classic halls many young men and maidens of that good old time went forth to stand as corner-stones in temples of learning, or homes of culture and refinement, where they gave to others the good they had received here.

Many a worthy minister has stood before the world to say of our school, "I was born into the kingdom there!" Lawyers, teachers, and senators have been proud to point to the old building and say, "The foundation of my success was laid there." And for many years a diploma from B— Academy was sufficient guarantee of "good moral character" for a certificate to any honorable employment.

But the glory of B— Academy is departed. The fine gold is become dim. The scholars who made the old institution an ornament and honor are gone. Their places are filled by a set of boys whose delight is to sow wild oats and talk the language of Bowery.

I love the noise and laughter of young people, and am perfectly willing that "boys should be boys;" but I can't feel any love, or admiration, or sympathy, for boys who will be rowdies.

Neither can my neighbor, Dea. Peabody. His gate disappeared one night last winter; and even now you would find no difficulty in entering his yard. There's nothing to hinder.

Mrs. Brown's apple trees and strawberry plants don't yield half as well as they used to; and the other day, when I spoke of the stirring, busy look of the village, and congratulated her on having things so lively around her (the students pass her house morning and night), she looked daggers at me.

However, we could almost pardon sundry giddy carryings-on of our young students if it were not for another grievance. Their words are as bad as their deeds. If I offer an opinion to one of the boys, and he happens to agree with me, he sings out, "You bet!" (The idea! I never betted in my life, and couldn't be hired to!)

"I asked one of them one day the price of a certain book. He named a pretty large figure, and embellished the information with 'How's that for high?' On the street I saw a number of very young men, intent, as it seemed, on having a lemonade treat. At any rate, one of them shouted,—

"Peel and go in, Lemons!"

But when I saw another roll up his sleeves, double up his fist and whack a school-fellow on the head, I concluded that the above language must mean something else.

One evening I walked down town for some distance behind a young academy gent, who was escorting a girl to a lecture. Apparently something she said didn't quite suit him, for I heard him ejaculate,—

"O, you go whistle!"

He held very close to her, nevertheless, so that she didn't "go,"—and if she "whistled," she certainly did it very softly.

Now it happened that one of my aunt's children, Cousin John, is a member of B— Academy, or was until recently. I cannot tell you how confounded I was when I discovered one day that he, too, had caught the trick of "fast" language.

I had asked him at the dinner-table, innocently enough, if he were going to speak a piece that week on declamation day; and the youngster replied,—

"Not much, Mary Ann!"

Now my name, as he very well knew, is Thankful Hapgood Jenkins; and what should possess him to call me Mary Ann was more than I could fathom. Seeing my consternation, he condescended to explain by adding:

"Excuse me, Cousin Thankful, but that's an emphatic way we boys have of saying no."

"We boys!" "An emphatic way!" I felt like boxing his ears—and all "we boys' ears, if I could have got at them.

Well, soon after that, I had a long talk with John's mother, and we agreed that the influence of his associates was anything but a benefit to him. It was a natural consequence of that long talk, I suppose, that I dreamed a dream about John that night.

I thought his mother, his sisters, and myself were all in the sitting-room together. Suddenly the mother (Mrs. Grayson) began to wipe her eyes, and the girls clung convulsively to one another and sobbed as if their hearts would break.

"What is the matter?" said I.

"O," sobbed Mrs. Grayson, "only to think! Only to think!"

"O," cried Ella, "to think! Only to think!"

"Oh," joined in Jennie, "only to think!"

"But what is the matter?" I asked. Do stop crying long enough to tell me. What does ail you all?"

After a fresh application of the handkerchief, Mrs. Grayson sobbed out: "My boy, my John—has—gone and"—and then came another flood of tears.

"Girls," I cried, "out with it! Has John run away? If so, he'll be back to supper!"

At this insinuation of her boy's voracity, Mrs. Grayson wiped her eyes and began to enlighten me.

"O, Thankful, John has—gone—and caught it—that awful disease the boys at school are all having—O, dear, dear!"

"Boys at school are all having!" echoed the girls.

"Is it scarlet fever? I thought he'd had that," said I.

"O, no," sobbed Jennie, "'tisn't that."

"Is it mumps—measles—typhoid?"

"No, worse than all those," was the tearful response from all sides. "He's caught the *Academy Vocabulary*!"

"Slang!" wailed Mrs. Grayson.

"Slang!" wailed both the girls in chorus.

"What's that?" said I, glad of something definite at last.

"Well," said Ella, "it breaks out first on the lips and tongue; and whoever has it can't speak without a saucy accent, and coarse, rowdy words; and now to think that John has got it!"

"Yes, and to think that John has got it?" echoed Mrs. Grayson. "It almost breaks my heart!"

"Dear aunt, is there no cure for it?" I inquired.

With an effort to calm herself, Mrs. Grayson replied, "The physicians say that one with a strong will, who determines to keep his face and mouth perfectly clean, avoids evening air, and shuns all further contagion by keeping away from those similarly troubled, may recover. But—but John is so reckless!"

"I'll speak to him," I cried. "He is coming, now," and I went out upon the door-step.

John was entering the gate with his hands in his pockets, and I thought he had a sickly expression on his face.

"Cousin John," I said, "I want to talk to you a minute."

"Bully! Pitch in!" was the answer.

"Have you caught the '*Academy Vocabulary*'?" laying my hand on his arm.

"You bet!"

"O John," I cried, "there's no hope for you unless"—

"Tell that to your grannie!" interrupted John

"O," said I, "you are in a bad case, certainly! Your mother and your sisters are in there weeping, and praying that you may be cured. The doctors say you can recover, if you will! O, John, you must fight this disease and shake it off! If you begin now, you can conquer it! The doctors say"—

"The doctors be hanged!" said John. "It's big cry and little wool, Cousin Thankful! You tend to your biz, and let me waddle!"

He attempted to pass me, but I stopped him, saying, "My boy, you're sicker than you think; your lips and tongue are all broken out; you can't say three sentences properly, and you'll surely give the disease to your mother, your sisters, and me! You're the pride of the family, and it will be an awful thing for you to bring such a plague home!"

All at once a peculiar sensation passed over me. I became strangely dizzy, and began to sing:

"Drunk last night, boys,
Drunk the night before;
Drink to night, boys,
Never get drunk any more!"

Then leaning against the gait-post, I said:

"I've caught it myself, John! Caught it talking with you!" And as the horrors of my situation came over me, I heard John say:

"Poor thing! I'll have to get her in, and chug her in her little bed!"—and at that point I awoke

I was afraid at first to move, lest I should find that I had had a real experience instead of a dream. But I was soon reassured by the sound of the breakfast bell, and John's voice, inquiring if I were going to stay in bed all day.

I dressed at once, and after breakfast told the assembled family my singular dream. There wasn't much said about it then. But two weeks later, Cousin

John packed his trunk, bade farewell to his academy friends in B—, and went with his father to W—, to finish his academical studies there. In a few months he came home on a vacation visit, and a more genial, affable young gentleman I have seldom seen.

On the whole I am rather glad I dreamed that dream.—*Youth's Companion*.

HOLIDAYS OF THE HEART.

This happy phrase, which Longfellow, best-beloved of poets, invented as a title to one of his sweetest songs, ought to have a personal meaning to everyone whose life is not wholly in the present. For the average life is not so rich in what the forerunner of the old Puritans called "crowning mercies," that we can afford to make all days that are past alike common, and think no more of them than of the sunshine or showers, the leaves or the fruit of a dead year. There are, or ought to be, some "days of days," that shed sunlight upon our path, give germination to our nobler purposes, or bring fruition to our hopes, which should stand to us as the saints' days do to the church, or the holiday festivals to the world. In this way the just complaint that as people we do not have enough holidays could be adequately met. The mere stopping of all the ordinary avocations of the people, and wandering aimlessly free, without any underlying or animating sentiment, may or may not conduce to the general happiness. Much of the vacuity and restlessness observable upon such occasions, and which have been said to make an American holiday a most melancholy occasion, are doubtless due to this lack of personal interest. It is hard to crowd happiness upon people in the mass. They must carry the happy heart into their festivities, or they cannot hope to find it there. But though a legal warrant for pleasure may fail, a natural expression of the emotion can hardly do so. The wedding anniversary of a couple who are mated as well as married will never pass unremembered, even though the observance be no more than a tenderer thought and dearer word than usual—a bunch of flowers by the plate, or a little token of remembrance. The vulgarity of gift-soliciting upon such anniversaries—"benefit nights for married beggars," as they were aptly called—is happily less in vogue than formerly; but as the holiday for the heart and the home, observed by a day's pleasuring, a special dinner, an evening's entertainment, and a real reminiscence of the happy time when the two paths merged into one, the wedding anniversary is more and more prized.—*Golden Rule*.

PUBLISHERS' NOTES.

—Advertises will please notice our revised schedule of rates published this week. Orders received hereafter will be charged strictly in accordance with this schedule.

—The advertisement of the Peerless Organ Company, of Port Colden, N. J., appears again in this issue. They advertise good cabinet organs for only \$50 cash, warranted for five years.

—We have no reason to doubt the statements made by the American Co-operative Manufacturing Company respecting the "Walker Heat Multiplier" advertised in another column. The representations made should attract the attention of school directors and superintendents.

—We wish to say a word respecting the *Cheap Copying Tablet* advertised in this issue. If we did not believe it to be the best of the numerous copying tablets advertised under different names, we would not undertake to sell it. It is not the handsomest, but it is the most easily used, and makes a very plain transfer. There is no difficulty whatever in cleaning it after use; and that cannot be said of all. If used according to instructions, perfect satisfaction is guaranteed.

—A remarkable invention for reproducing any written matter,—examination papers, music, drawing, etc., called the Heliograph, is received with much favor where introduced and meets with ready sales. It is simply two surfaces of gelatine to which the writing is transferred by contact and from which numerous perfect copies may be printed. It is so simple and cheap that it is being very generally used wherever it has been shown. The Company send descriptive circulars on application. See their advertisement.

—The advertisement of Jansen, McClurg & Co., and S. C. Griggs & Co., both Chicago publishers, merit a careful reading. The latest book published by Griggs & Co. is noticed among the Book Reviews in this issue. Prof. Mathews' books have all been reviewed in the WEEKLY, and none but words of praise could be found for them. The enormous sale of some of them is the best testimony to their excellence. Jansen, McClurg & Co. have a magnificent store on State street, which is the common resort of all teachers and lovers of good literature who ever pass through the streets of the Garden City. Besides the books which bear their imprint, there may be found on their tables the latest publications in every department of learning.

—The WEEKLY is making many friends here.—Prin. F. A. E. Starr, Carmago, Ill.

THE WORLD.

- The British iron trade continues to improve.
- Australia expects to export 375,000 tons of wheat this season.
- The New York *Tribune* has begun the issue of a Sunday edition.
- Gortschakoff announces his purpose to adhere to a pacific policy.
- The Irish agitators, Davitt, Killen, and Daly, have been indicted for sedition.
- Further destructive floods in Hungary have carried away much property and several lives.
- The bill for the abolition of slavery in Cuba has been approved by the Spanish Ministry.
- The Turkish police force is to be raised to 60,000 men, who will also act as a reserve in case of war.
- The agents of the Canadian Government in England are severely censured for deceit practiced in sending emigrants to Canada. Many of the emigrants are objects of charity.
- The town of Bradford, Pa., was totally destroyed Dec. 12 by a fire caused by an explosion of coal-oil. The loss of oil was enormous, one of the tanks consumed containing 25,000 barrels.
- The lower house of the Prussian Landtag has, by a large majority, adopted a bill for the government purchase of railways.
- Advices received by the State Department show that the commerce of Japan with the United States exceeds that with all other countries.
- The war in Afghanistan is progressing on a larger scale than previously. It is anticipated that the hand of Russia will soon appear in the leaders of the opposing forces.
- Bismarck is said to concede the fact that the financial distress throughout Europe is due to the enormous over-armament of the great powers, the maintenance of which exhausts the resources of the people.
- Dr. Eben Tourjée, of Boston, whose European Excursions have been so successfully carried out for two summers, is arranging a still more attractive and comprehensive program for next season, which will be duly announced.
- Randall Gibson, of Louisiana, has introduced a bill in the U. S. House of Representatives to create a commission to determine the best plan and route for communication of trade and commerce across the Isthmus of Darien.
- A Berlin-dispatch says the Catholic clergy refuse the government's concession allowing them to supervise religious instruction in schools. They claim that they themselves should actually give instruction, as before the enactment of the Falk laws.
- The Utes have demanded that the twelve Indians who are accused of being engaged in the White River Agency Massacre be tried in Washington, and Secretary Schurz has replied that the trial cannot be held in Washington, though it may be outside of Colorado and New Mexico. The Indians will probably be delivered up.
- Senator Bailey has introduced a bill "to aid the education of the colored race" reciting in the preamble that \$510,000 have recently been covered back into the United States Treasury from appropriations for the pay and bounties of colored soldiers, which remained unclaimed after seven years, owing to the impossibility of discovering the claimants; and asserting that under the circumstances the colored people should have the benefit of said money for their educational improvement and elevation. The bill, therefore, directs the Secretary of the Treasury to invest \$510,000 in United States registered 4 per cent bonds to be apportioned in equal parts to the following institutions for the education of the colored people, viz.: The Howard University, Washington, D. C.; Hampton (Va.) Normal and Agricultural Institute; the Fisk University, of Nashville, Tenn.; the Atlanta (Ga.) University, and the Straight University, of New Orleans. The trustees of these institutions are to be entitled to use the interest on the bonds in such a manner as in their judgment will best promote the ends for which they are chartered, but the principal of the bonds is to be inalienable.
- The American Book Exchange has cried havoc and let slip the dogs of war on other publishers by reducing to an almost absurd price some of the best classics in the language. One of their recent publication will suffice as an illustration: Chamber's Encyclopedia, which, in the hands of the original publishers, was sold at \$50, and more recently under the pressure of competition, for \$25, is now offered by the Exchange for \$10. Dr. Cunningham Geikie's "Life of Christ," one of the best works of the kind, has been reduced in price from \$8.00 to 50 cents, while the five volumes of Macaulay's History of England may be had for \$2.50.

THE TEACHERS' MEETING.

AN EXCELLENT SUGGESTION.

To the Editors of the Weekly:

Do we as teachers sufficiently consider the social rank and home influences of our pupils? A school ought to be managed so as to secure *equal rights to all*. Is it just, therefore, that all classes and conditions should be made amenable to the same rules and regulations, and the same standard of results required of all indiscriminately? My teachers have not all reached that degree of excellence which enables them to dispense with the rod, and I notice that invariably the rod is inflicted upon pupils whose advantages for home training and discipline are very poor. Praise and commendation are given to the fortunate, reproof and punishment to the unfortunate. It seems to me that here is an opportunity to use wise discrimination to so adjust the standard of conduct and lessons that the principle shall prevail, "To whom much is given, of him much shall be required."

LONG ISLAND CITY, N. Y., Dec. 2, 1879.

E. CROSBY.

The above suggestion is a very important one, worthy the consideration of all teachers. A more extended discussion of the subject is invited by—THE EDITORS.

SCRAPS—WHAT TO DO WITH THEM.

Last year the WEEKLY had something to say about scraps of letters, and what to do to make them useful. Possibly some of my fellow teachers may like to learn what use to make of scraps. I have one of the copying pads variously styled hektograph, heliograph, auto-litho-printer, etc. I use this to print examination questions, (to save putting them on the blackboards), outlines for class use, songs I wish to teach the school, and, in fact, anything I wish to distribute amongst the pupils. I print these on my scraps of paper. For this purpose, I save letters which have only been written upon one side, old envelopes, examination papers, etc. Thus I use up all the scraps of paper, save myself much blackboard work, and please the children by being able to give them new songs.

I use the auto-printer, and scraps of paper, outside of school. Few who attend our church have hymn books. I printed the hymns on slips of paper, and passed to the congregation. I have printed songs for our temperance meetings, notices of such meetings, business cards, and letter heads. I thus find the auto-printer very useful, and make use of every scrap of paper which has any blank space.

S. C. B.

THAT QUEER PROBLEM.

To the Editors of the Weekly:

In a recent issue of the WEEKLY we notice an article by Prof. David Kirk in which he takes exceptions to a problem published some time since. We are not surprised that the mathematician who has never extended his researches beyond "Greenleaf and other old authors" should take exceptions to anything outside of their line of instruction and characterize it as "queer and absurd."

The problem referred to contains many new, unique, and interesting principles which have never been developed in any mathematical work; it is intended for the progressive scholar who is willing to extend his researches beyond the regular routine as laid down by the old authors. A few of the interesting points in the problem may be illustrated by the following similar example:—"Three train boys have respectively 10, 30, and 50 oranges, they all sell at the same rates and each receives the same amount of money. At what rates do they sell, and what sum does each receive?"

They may sell a certain number of oranges, which we will designate as a divisor, at a specified price, or rate per dozen as long as even dozens hold out, when the remaining oranges may be sold at another rate, the cost being set at a specified sum for each orange. We see nothing peculiar, strange, or absurd, in transactions of this kind; they are of daily occurrence. We give a few interesting points in the problem as follows:

1. It can readily be determined whether any divisor, taken as a rate, will truly fulfill the conditions of the problem.
2. When a true divisor is found, any price may be assumed for quotients, and the corresponding cost for remainders can be found; then both cost and price may be increased or diminished by any number we please, thus giving an infinite number of true results.
3. Cost of remainders may be assumed and price of quotients found.
4. Two fixed points can be found, between which an unlimited number of divisors may be taken, thus giving an infinite number of results, all true.

5. The point where the several remainders all become equal and change from an increasing to a decreasing ratio can be found.

6. The divisor can be determined that will produce these equal remainders.

7. An example can be formed having the divisors limited between any two numbers we please, provided their difference is not too great.

These results can all be determined by direct rules or formulas, and form only a part of the interesting features of the problem.

The limits between which the divisors must be taken in the preceding example are $6\frac{1}{2}$ and $7\frac{1}{2}$ taking cost and price both positive; or $6\frac{1}{2}$ and $6\frac{1}{2}$ cost and price, one positive, the other negative.

They may sell 7 for a dime, and remainders at 3 dimes apiece, each receiving \$1.00. Or they may sell $6\frac{1}{2}$ for 8 cents, and remainders at 60 cents apiece, each receiving \$2.00. Or the boys may pay their customers 16 cents for taking each $6\frac{1}{2}$ oranges, and then charge them 60 cents apiece for the remainders, each boy receiving \$2.00.

We are aware that it may be considered "absurd" for a dealer to give away an article, and a bonus in cash for receiving it in order to make a profit in the transaction by putting a large percentage on articles actually sold to the customer. But this is "one of the tricks of the trade."

The "queer problem" is as follows:

"Three market women have respectively 20, 29, and 35 oranges; they all sell at the same rates and each receives the same amount of money; at what rates do they sell and what sum does each receive?"

This problem is susceptible of an unlimited number of solutions which may be determined by developing the principles above enumerated. It was formed by a formula deduced from the 7th proposition, the limits of the divisor being purposely made small in order that a little mathematical skill might be exercised in its solution.

D. H. DAVISON.

MINONK, ILL.

OTHER EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES.

The Teacher is published by Eldredge & Brother, Philadelphia, and, like all their other publications, is a specimen of the very best of work, particularly in the quality and style of printing. It is not what is popularly termed "practical," though edited with superior skill and judgment. We have clipped nearly the whole of the last issue for the columns of the WEEKLY. The next number begins its second year. Fifty cents.

The Practical Teacher, Chicago, \$1.00 per year, is one of the best journals of its class. Each number contains one illustrated article. A disproportionate amount of space (one quarter of the whole) is given in the December issue to a fulsome sketch of the Lake View (Ill.) high school and its principal. Its contributed articles are all "for the *Practical Teacher*," though unfortunately many of them find their way to the public before the tardy monthly appears.

The Pennsylvania School Journal contends with the *Ohio Educational Monthly* for the distinction of being the oldest living educational journal in the country. It is in its 28th volume. It is probably the largest—that is, contains most reading—of the educational journals. Its editor, Hon. J. P. Wickersham, is a man of world wide reputation. The matter contained in this journal in the course of a year furnishes a teacher with a pretty full expression of educational sentiment throughout the country. This also leaves out most of the so-called "practical." Lancaster, Pa., \$1.60 in advance.

The West Virginia Journal of Education persists in giving the teachers of that little state a first class bill of fare every week for only \$1.50 per year. The enterprise of the editor is commendable. He is a scholar (President of West Va. University), and appreciates good reading. His selected articles are always timely and valuable. May he be made happy by a thousand new subscriptions every month.

The Normal Teacher for December can not be discounted. It is above par. Teachers of country schools will find it just what they want. Published by J. E. Sherrill, Danville, Ind.

The *Missionary Herald* for December says that eight hundred dollars has been called for to aid in the establishment of high schools in eight cities and large towns in Eastern Turkey. The teachers will be supplied by graduates from Armenia College or like institutions. In Asia Minor sixteen girls' schools are asked for in as many different places, for next year. Only six are at present sustained. This looks like progress. The outlook is very encouraging not only to missionary effort, but to the friends of education everywhere. Favorable reports are given of other colleges and schools in India and Japan.

Miss Parloa began her third year's work at Lasell Seminary, Auburndale, with a talk (Dec. 3), on Food and Health, how to market, etc., and gave the first Object-Lesson Dec. 6. The program was practical enough—"stuffed leg of mutton, boiled rice, mashed potatoes, various preparations of cold potatoes."

CHICAGO NOTES.

At the last meeting of the board Mrs. Laura D. Ayres was elected principal of the new Armour street school. This is an excellent and well-merited choice. In her change of base Mrs. Ayres has the good wishes of a host of friends, and not least among them her old suzerain.

Acting on the advice of the WEEKLY, the special committee of the board recommended a thorough reconstruction of the office force, the new officers to be as follows: 1. Business Manager; 2. Assistant Business Manager; 3. Book-keeper; 4. Attorney; 5. Clerk. If the board are wise they will in due time elect the following named persons respectively to those positions: 1. C. C. Chase; 2. D. Doty; 3. M. B. Hicks; 4. Col. Ricaby; 5. S. Johnston.

Balancing the books for the year, this department of the WEEKLY has accomplished the following ends: 1. The revision of the course of study and the introduction into actual use of the practical and sensible course prepared by the committee of principals; 2. The ridiculing out of existence of the system of records in vogue last year; 3. Preventing the application at the high school examination of the unreasonably high minimum average advocated by the Superintendent; 4. Keeping the Superintendent, naturally an autocrat, within the bounds of moderation in his treatment of teachers. Many think Mr. Doty a mild and persecuted man and denounce his tormentor as merciless and malicious; but without the rod of correction that has been held over his head, how would it be with you all these times? eh, girls?

Acting on the advice of the WEEKLY Miss McAfferty, who was thrown down stairs by pupils of the Hayes school in pursuance of an order of the Superintendent to have children moved down stairs expeditiously, has taken the first respectful step towards recovering damages, by petitioning the board to make good her loss of wages, etc. Granting her request will be a dangerous precedent, yet the board cannot afford to let the matter get into court, as the resulting exposure of the weakness of the present administration would be humiliating. The fair thing for the salary committee, to whom the matter was referred, to do is to assess the damage equally on Mr. Doty and Mr. Merriam and deduct it from their salaries. This will avoid a bad precedent and prevent Miss McAfferty from suffering pain and hunger on account of the insane folly of her two immediate superiors.

At the last meeting of the board of education the following estimates were presented for the year 1880:

For supervision and business	\$ 15,150
Special teachers	2,340
High schools	52,000
Principals of grammar and primary schools	80,000
Assistants in grammar and primary schools	440,000
Principals and assistants in new buildings to be opened during the year	30,000
Total	\$619,490

The most curious circumstance in the above is that the item "supervision and business" does not read \$440,000 and that of "assistants in grammar and primary schools," \$15,150. Nothing is said in the schedule of the Superintendent of German or the teachers of that branch; but like brine in a pork barrel, provision for them is probably stowed away in the other items, to be drawn away from them in due process of time.

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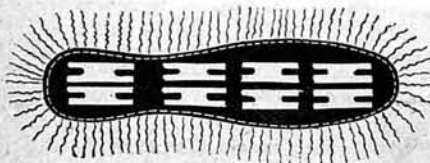
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Cook County Normal School.

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D. H. WENTWORTH, Principal,
 Normalville, Cook Co., Ill., Dec. 17, 1879.

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The *Youth's Companion*, of Boston, employs the same writers as the best English and American magazines, and no other publication for the family furnishes so much entertainment and instruction of a superior order for so low a price. Its illustrations are by the best artists, and it has recently been greatly enlarged.

We wish to call special attention to Adams' System of School Records—"Union Series"—advertised in this number of THE EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY. They are equal to any Series of Records of which we have any knowledge.

Teachers and school boards should examine them before purchasing others for their schools.

NASAL AND BRONCHIAL CATARRH.
A STRONG RECORD.

Rev. T. P. CHILDS, of Troy, Ohio, whose advertisement of his *Catarrah Treatment* appears in this issue of the EDUCATIONAL WEEKLY, has addressed our subscribers and readers before. It is not surprising when we consider the facts, that Mr. Childs should be constrained to urge the attention of people to this matter, and mention his ability to treat successfully this scourge of the human race.

Leading men of every denomination publicly state that Child's treatment has cured them or their families of Catarrh or of Throat difficulties, not obscure, unknown men, but men whose reputation is national, men widely known for their services in the pulpit or the missionary field. Editors and publishers of our leading periodicals, among them the *Congregationalist* and *Watchman*, of Boston; the *Illustrated Christian Weekly* and the *Examiner and Chronicle*, of New York; the *Journal and Messenger* and *Daily Gazette*, of Cincinnati, and many others, have personally investigated the facts, and they are satisfied that, while Mr. Childs is not—as he does not claim to be—a regularly educated physician, but, on the other hand, a highly-esteemed minister of the gospel, who has spent thirty years as a pastor in the State of Ohio, yet he has made such a study of the disease known as Catarrh, as to have enabled him to treat it with most extraordinary success. His own affliction, suffered for years, until he was finally compelled to leave the pulpit, expecting to die, is well known to all his brethren throughout the State; and his present robustness of health and prospect of long life are also well known, and can be ascribed to nothing else than the treatment devised by himself, and now so confidently recommended to others. If any record could inspire confidence, surely this of Mr. Childs should make every sufferer feel that he may make a trial of this treatment with every hope of success.

Nor is his remedy a novelty. It has now been before the public for twelve years, though it is only three years since he began to so extensively advertise it, and the result now is that thousands have been cured by him, and his business has constantly increased, until he has been obliged to erect new and commodious buildings in Troy, Ohio, for the special purpose of affording facilities for compounding, packing, and shipping his remedies and apparatus, and for the entertainment of those who call upon him for personal consultation.

The addition to his firm of Dr. J. H. Green, a well known physician of twenty years' practice, assures patients that if they have any constitutional troubles growing out of Catarrh, Dr. Green will add such treatment as will remove them. We would advise our readers to present this treatment to their friends with the fullest assurance of its success.

INVEST ONE CENT

In a postal card, address it to H. A. Kenyon, Dwight, Illinois, and order our Club List of 800 Newspapers and Periodicals, which we send singly to any address at lowest club rate. You will get much information that we cannot give you here.

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Please read the following opinions of the book:

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"I have carefully examined the Normal Question Book and believe it to be an excellent work for teachers preparing for examination. The questions are thorough, and practical, and the answers plain and comprehensive. Every teacher should have a copy."—F. A. E. Starr, Camargo, Ill.

"Your Question Book received and carefully examined. I like it. It will aid teachers to get out of the rut of one-sided questioning; and be of great help to candidates for certificates; and also for the examiner. The idea of having the authority of each answer appended is a good one, and the first for a book of the kind. Again the questions are broad and embrace such leading principles of the different branches as are considered the more difficult."—Prof. T. C. Clendenen, Newman, Ill.

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"This is one of the best and safest works to place as a gift in the hands of a youth who is just entering trade, or who is contemplating an early adoption of the career of a banker or merchant."—*The Banker's Magazine, New York*.

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"This condensed and charming book has itself one of the highest qualities of a perfect oration, it commands attention from the beginning to the end. It is exceedingly instructive and interesting."—*E. O. Haven, D. D., LL. D., Chancellor of Syracuse University*.

THE GREAT CONVERSERS.

"One will make the acquaintance of more authors in the course of a single one of his essays than are probably to be met with in the same limited space anywhere else in the whole realm of our literature."—*Chicago Tribune*.

Sainte Beuve's Monday Chats.

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"Prof. Mathews, one of the most gifted and ablest of writers, supplements these remarkable and unequalled critiques with a charming essay much like Sainte-Beuve's own writings, on the author and his works, the whole forming a refreshing volume of most readable essays."—*Boston Traveller*.

'HELPFUL BOOKS.'

"It is not often that a man can publish a series of books each one worthy of comparison with its predecessor in freshness, force, and practical wisdom. They are books admirably adapted to students of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Course, and we say to young people who are accumulating a library full of helpful suggestions, ORDER DR. MATHEWS' SERIES."—*From J. H. VINCENT, D. D., in the Sunday School Journal, New York*.

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The Educational Weekly.

The readers of the WEEKLY had already had intimations of the changes to be made in the paper with this issue. The enlargement to twenty pages affords room for introducing some new features, and for devoting more space to articles of a high literary character, though not strictly educational. There are three other weekly educational papers in the United States, containing four, twelve, and sixteen pages respectively, so that whether "the best" or not, the WEEKLY is certainly the cheapest. It is the purpose of the publishers to place its merits beyond dispute. To this end the best talent employed in the educational work of the Western states will be represented in its columns. Its contributed articles will not be all of a technical or purely educational character, but in addition to these there will be critical, literary, philosophical, and scientific articles, as well as stories, poems, sketches, biographies, etc., outside of the special teachers' department. More attention will be given to general educational and scientific intelligence—both at home and abroad. At the same time renewed efforts will be made to present the latest and best thought on methods of teaching and the principles of pedagogy. To this department it will be the special duty of experienced teachers to contribute. In order to be successful the discussions must be spontaneous, earnest, and practical. Let the daily experiences of the class-room find expression in the WEEKLY, and its *helpfulness* cannot be questioned.

As an indication of what may be expected, we append a few names of those engaged to contribute to the WEEKLY during 1880. In addition to these we are proud to say that there are hundreds of our readers who are not ambitious of fame, who never "pretend to write for the press," from whom we expect to receive much of what will be of most value to the teacher. The live teacher always has some opinions of his own, and when given for the benefit of his fellow-teachers their value is duly appreciated.

- Prof. Jerome Allen, State Normal School, Geneseo, N. Y.
Miss Grace C. Bibb, Prof. of Pedagogics, Missouri University.
Miss Anna C. Brackett, New York City.
Prof. H. B. Buckham, Prin. Buffalo State Normal School.
Miss Clara Conway, Memphis, Tenn.
Dr. Geo. F. Magoun, Prest. Iowa College.
Rev. A. D. Mayo, Springfield, Mass.
Hon. B. G. Northrop, Secy. Conn. State Board of Education.
Dr. Edward Olney, Prof. Mathematics, University of Michigan.
Hon. J. W. Simonds, Supt. of Public Schools, Milford, Mass.
Prof. Louis Soldan, Prin. St. Louis Normal School.
Mrs. Louise Pollock, Prin. Nat. Kindergarten, Washington, D. C.
Dr. J. M. Gregory, Prest. Ill. Industrial University.
Prof. J. C. Gilchrist, Prest. Iowa State Normal School.
Pres. Robert Allyn, Southern Ill. Normal University.
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Miss S. P. Bartlett, South Dartmouth, Mass.
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Dr. Geo. A. Chase, Prin. Girl's High School, Louisville, Ky.
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Mrs. Mary P. Colburn, South Boston, Mass.
Prof. Melvil Dewey, Editor Library Journal, Boston.
John W. Dowd, Supt. of Instruction, Troy, Ohio.
James Hannan, Prin. Kinzie School, Chicago.
Prof. Edwin C. Hewitt, Prest. Illinois State Normal University.
H. F. Harrington, Prof. Wm. F. Phelps, Supt. of Public Schools, Winona, Minn.
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A. H. Tuttle, Prof. of Nat. His. & Com. Anat., O. Ag. Col.
Prof. W. H. Venable, Cincinnati, O.
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Mary Allen West, Supt. Knox County, Illinois.
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M. S. Toyama, Royal University of Japan.
Prof. S. Calvin, Iowa State University.
Alfred Kirk, Jackson, Minn.
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Prof. Edward Johnson, Prin. Lynn Private High Sch., Mass.
"Helen Gilbert," Chicago, Ill.
Supt. of Schools, New Bedford, Mass.
Prof. J. H. Hoese, Prin. St. Nor. & Train. Sch., Cortland, N. Y.
George Howland, Prin. Central High School, Chicago.
Hon. W. D. Henkle, Ed. Ohio Ed. Monthly, & Sec. Na. Ed. As.
Dr. E. O. Haven, Chancellor Syracuse University.
Prof. W. N. Hallman, Prin. Train. Sch. for Kindergartners, Det. Mich.
Miss P. W. Sudlow, Prof. of Eng. Lit., Iowa State Univ.
Prof. L. S. Thompson, Purdue University.
Prof. S. E. Warren, Author of Mathematical, Architectural, and Industrial Drawing Books.
Dr. Alex. Winchell, Prof. of Geology and Zoology, Univ. of Mich.
Prof. N. H. Winchell, State Geologist of Minnesota.
Miss Harriet L. Keeler, Supt. of Primary Inst. Cleveland, O.
A. P. Marble, Supt. Instruction, Worcester, Mass.
Dr. T. C. Merdell, Prof. of Physics in the Royal Univ. of Japan.
Prof. John Ogden, Prest. Ohio Central Normal School.
Hon. J. L. Pickard, President of the Iowa State University.
Dr. Samuel Willard, Chicago High School.

The report of the Committee of the Chicago Board of Education reorganizing the office force is a crowning victory for the WEEKLY. It means this: Next year Mr. Doty will be business manager. In this position he will be as admirable as he was *malapropos* in that of superintendent of instruction. If he and his friends are wise, they will not try to unite the two offices in his person. The material and the intellectual departments of the schools should be kept entirely distinct. In this position Mr. Doty should receive not less than \$3,500 a year, and the superintendent of instruction should receive at least the same salary. Mr. Howland should be elected to that position, with the Normal school re-opened and Mr. Delano made its principal.

Against Mr. Doty the WEEKLY can not find a grain of ill-will in any nook or cranny of its inner consciousness. In his new and important position, one demanding as much executive ability as is required in the head of a great corporation or manufacturing establishment, the WEEKLY will support Mr. Doty as energetically as it assailed him in the superintendency. Upon this platform the WEEKLY will shake hands with Mr. Doty across the bloodless chasm. Otherwise—

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Premiums may also be secured for subscriptions to the Monthly Editions by sending eight names and \$4.00 with the first order.

—C. N. Caspar, of Milwaukee, takes a prominent place among the advertisers in this number. We trust he will receive answers enough to make his investment a profitable one. We would suggest that his advertisement be removed from the paper and preserved, should the WEEKLY itself be destroyed. His book list is a very full one, and will be found of service for a long time. Mr. Caspar is a man whom we have found honorable and "square" in business, and there is no risk in sending him money.